

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 3 have been amended and claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 to 3 are now active in this application.

Claim 1 now requires an improved encoder for a CATV upstream data channel transmitter having a BICM encoder for receiving data values, the encoder concatenated with an outer Reed-Solomon encoder. No such structure is taught or suggested by Kaiser et al. either alone or in the combination as claimed.

Claim 1 further requires a bit-interleaver interconnected with the encoder, and a symbol mapper interconnected with the bit-interleaver. No such combination is taught or suggested by Kaiser et al.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and therefore defines patentably over Kaiser et al. for at least the reasons presented above with reference to claim 1.

In addition, claim 2 further limits claim 1 by requiring that the simple mapper be a QAM mapper. No such structure is taught or suggested by Kaiser et al. either alone or in the combination as claimed.

Claim 3 recites the features of claim 1 and further requires a bit interleaved decoder for a CATV upstream channel receiver having a scorer for receiving symbols, a bit de-interleaver interconnected with said scorer, and a convolutional decoder interconnected with said bit de-interleaver. No such combination is taught or suggested by Kaiser et al.

In view of the above remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Cantor", written over a horizontal line.

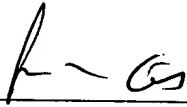
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Amendment 37 C.F.R. 1.111
Two Month EOT

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In re application of

OFIR SHALVI ET AL.

Serial No. 09/493,526 (TI-30149)

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For: METHOD FOR COMBATING INGRESS AND
IMPULSE NOISE USING CODED MODULATION